

J. H. EITS.

JANUARY 25, 1861.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. NIXON, from the Committee on Commerce, made the following

## REPORT.

*The Committee on Commerce, to whom was referred the memorial of J. H. Eits, a citizen of Bremer Haven, for testing an alleged valuable invention of his whereby the destruction of vessels by fire may be prevented, have had the same under consideration, and report:*

The memorialist in this case claims that in the year 1858 he succeeded in perfecting a fire-extinguishing apparatus on shipboard in such a manner that accidents by fire will most effectually be prevented in using said apparatus, and asks that some American be authorized, under injunction of secrecy, to examine the invention, and if he report favorably, that the national government should make the same public for the benefit of the whole world upon payment to him of the sum of \$40,000.

Whilst the committee are not insensible to the importance of the alleged invention, and are desirous of co-operating in any proper mode of bringing the same to the knowledge of the world, they are of the opinion that the present condition of the country and of the federal treasury renders any action at this time inexpedient.

